



G-5's "Eye on AMC" U.S. Army Materiel Command

Essential in Peace, Indispensable in War

July 23, 2004

APS program adapts to changing world

In an era of transformation and change within the Army, the U.S. Army Field Support Command is implementing changes to the Army Prepositioned Stocks program.

APS is a concept in which the Army prepositions combat equipment, ammunition and other supplies at locations in the United States, overseas, and afloat, where it can be easily accessed by theater and combatant commanders.

Christopher Barnhart, a logistician with AFSC, views APS improvements as "a critical component to better serve the Soldier." In the new system, Barnhart said, APS sets no longer solely support major contingency operations, but are now designed to support the majority of Army's mission requirements in the critical regions of the world.

Brian Newman, AFSC G-4 Deputy for Logistics, said the program would also reflect the Army's vision of having a leaner, more expeditionary force. "The concept, based on using regional flotillas, allows the flexibility to support any contingency we might face," he said. "This enables a full range of military options, from humanitarian assistance and disaster relief to full-scale combat operations."

Compliments have landed on Newman's desk concerning the quality of the prepositioned stock used during Operation Iraqi Freedom. "The Warfighters are generally pleased in the equipment in the field," he said. "In fact, some of the troops wanted to take our equipment home with them."

AFSC employee retires after 50 years of service

Brig. Gen. Jerome Johnson, commanding general of the U.S. Army Field Support Command, congratulated Joint Munitions Command employee, Roy Buckrop, July 19, on his retirement after 50 years of government service.

Buckrop, 80, of Moline, drove onto Arsenal Island in 1958 in his 1938 Willys automobile to work as a quality engineer. Buckrop celebrated his retirement by driving off the Island on his last day of employment in that same 1938 Willys.

Brig. Gen. Johnson spoke of the passion and dedication that Buckrop brought to work each day. "It's an absolute honor. I'm honored to do this," he said. "When you read (Buckrop's) bio, you realize this is the reason why I put on the uniform, for people like Mr. Buckrop. He represents what I feel I fight for."

Buckrop was a welding and X-ray expert for the first procurement of the M109 and M198 Howitzers. According to co-workers, Buckrop has solved many difficult issues including the M67 Hand Grenade (new detonator), 30mm (broken rims and hangfires), and 30-Caliber Ceremonial Blank. Buckrop has also published numerous technical papers.

In addition to his 48 years of service at the Arsenal, Buckrop served during World War II in the U.S. Army Air Force from March 1943 to December 1945. Buckrop was in flight school and obtained his pilot's license just as World War II ended.

After returning to the Quad-Cities, Buckrop worked for several companies before he graduated with a physics degree from St. Ambrose University in Davenport, Iowa.

"I'm a little bit embarrassed and amazed. I didn't realize I was doing that much," he said. "I could have (retired) 10 years ago, but I loved my job."

Did you know...

Red River Army Depot, United Defense Limited Partnership, and the Project Manager's Office for Combat Systems recently signed a Memorandum of Intent for a partnership in support of the Bradley Fighting Vehicle System. The focus of the MOI is primarily to provide a foundation for executing the Bradley program with the mutual objective of providing a more responsive, timely and reliable product to the Warfighter.